

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-7. (Cancelled)

8. (New) A method of optimising the bandwidth usage on a Real-Time Protocol managed link transporting media from a Media Resource Function of a cellular telecommunications network to User Equipment, the method comprising:

monitoring the rate of packet loss of the link to determine whether the rate of packet loss is unacceptably high or within acceptable limits; and

as a result of said monitoring, adapting the sending rate over the link by re-packetising media, received at the Media Resource Function from third party nodes, to either increase the size of packets sent over the link when the rate of packet loss is unacceptably high, thereby reducing packet header overhead and reducing bandwidth usage on the link; or to decrease the size of packets sent over the link when the rate of packet loss is within acceptable limits, thereby reducing the transmission delay over the link.

9. (New) A method according to claim 8, wherein the step of monitoring the rate of packet loss of the link comprises sampling.

10. (New) A method according to claim 8, wherein said step of adapting the sending rate is carried out dynamically in response to the monitored rate of packet loss.

11. (New) A method according to claim 8, wherein, in the event that media is to be repacketised at the Media Resource Function, received media is stored at the Media Resource Function in a buffer until such time as sufficient media has been received to construct a packet of the necessary size.

12. (New) A method according to claim 8 wherein said third party nodes are peer User Equipment (UEs).

13. (New) A Media Resource Function node for use in a cellular telecommunications network, the node handling media sent between itself and user equipment over a Real-Time Protocol managed link, the node comprising:

means for monitoring the rate of packet loss of the downlink to the User Equipment to determine whether the rate of packet loss is unacceptably high or within acceptable limits; and

means for adapting, based upon the monitored properties, the sending rate over the link by re-packetising media received from third party nodes, to increase the size of packets sent over said downlink when the rate of packet loss is unacceptably high, thereby reducing packet header overhead and reducing bandwidth usage on the

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link; or to decrease the size of packets sent over the link when the rate of packet loss is within acceptable limits, thereby reducing the transmission delay over the link.